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Message Text

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70
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 OMB-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /124 W
---------- 089204
R 292207Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5135
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR OAS HO
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 3171

1. FOREIGN MINISTER BATRES HELD PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 28 TO EXPLAIN MORE FULLY HONDURAN POSITION ON UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR. HE MADE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS:

(A) THE HONDURAN PEOPLE SHOULD REMAIN UNITED DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS;

(B) THE GOH WILL NOT ACCEPT EXTERNAL PRESSURES OF ANY TYPE;

(C) THERE IS NO GUARANTEE OF A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME,
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BUT HE FEELS MODERATELY OPTIMISTIC;

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(C) THE NEGOTIATIONS MUST TREAT ALL POINTS AND REACH A GENERAL AGREEMENT BEFORE A TREATY CAN COME INTO EXISTENCE; AND

(E) THE SETTLEMENT OF THE FRONTIER DEMARCATION QUESTION IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE AGREEMENT.

2. THE FONMIN WAS OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO REPLY TO SOME OF THE PRESS CRITICISM, PARTICULARLY EL CRONISTA, DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HONDURAS WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE PRESSURES OF FOREIGN POLICY, CLEARLY IN ANSWER TO RUMORS THAT THE WASHINGTON AGREEMENT WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY U.S. PRESSURE. IN ADDITION, HE FORCEFULLY ASSERTED THAT THE TREATY WOULD HAVE TO BE A COMPLETE AGREEMENT COVERING ALL EIGHT TOPICS AGREED TO IN THE WASHINGTON NEGOTIATIONS.
SANCHEZ

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Disposition Authority: thigpegh
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